AGENDA ITEM: Statewide Information Databases

GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:

CURRENT STATUS:

Librarians' Index to the Internet (lii.org)

Usage, content development, and data quality continue to improve; user access continues to break records, as it has done for several consecutive quarters. The California Digital Asset project identified hundreds of high quality digital collections created by UC system libraries and organizations and can be viewed at http://www.californiadigitallibrary.org/. Theme collections continue to be a popular tool for organizing and marketing content.

- Usage of the lii.org database was almost triple the same quarter the previous year.
- Usage for calendar year 2002 was 74% higher than calendar year 2001.
- The thematic collection, *Grapes of Web*, and a new collection, *Holidays and Observances*, attracted praise and generated traffic.
- Close to 200 old/dead records were weeded, and data quality remained excellent
- Close to 700 sites were added to the database.
- Approximately 15,000 users now subscribe to lii.org *New This Week*.
- Data quality continued with the Link Validation Report at 4%.
- 15 new contributors joined the ranks of lii.org.
- Small database improvements helped lii.org launch a project with California Digital Library.

At 6.6 million accesses, this was the busiest quarter ever for lii.org. Usage was more than double for the same quarter the previous year, and the calendar years showed a 74% increase from 2002 to 2003. Web statistics indicate that thematic collections such as the *Grapes of Web* and *Holidays and Observances* generate high numbers of hits, but usage overall is high anyway, and there is no longer a strong correlation between the library "day" and usage of lii.org.

lii.org maintains "co-branding" with twenty five libraries in California, two Library of California regional websites, and one California Library Services Act (CLSA) system. Three out of state libraries are co-branded as well. lii.org also has been working on a supplementary grant from the Washington State Library to develop a Washington State specific lii.org site.

The lii.org advisory board met at the California State Library on January 21, 2003 and reviewed new features, key indicators, the mission statement as well as budget and planning issues for the future.

Library of California Periodicals/Serials Database (LoC P/SD)

A survey about public library use of OCLC for serials holdings was emailed to public library directors. Only a small percentage (<10%) currently use OCLC for serials holdings.

OCLC now offers a batch load service for libraries to update records and holdings information for serials. This new service may increase the quantity and currency of holdings information from California libraries at OCLC. There is currently no charge for this service.

Staff continue to work with OCLC to explore the possibility of importing existing holdings records from the California Database of Serials (CDBS) into OCLC union listing records. The current periodicals database hosted by the University of California, California Digital Library will continue until June 2003.

Cooperative Licensing Services

Amigos was present at the California Library Association conference to alert Library of California members about their services and to answer questions about cooperative licensing activities. Amigos continues to offer opportunities for savings on electronic databases as well as other library products and services.

Relevant Committee: Support Services
Staff Liaison: Ira Bray